

From: Loyd D. Jacobs
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 10:48pm
Subject: Microsoft Antitrust Settlement

I believe the subject settlement is more than fair.

Microsoft was largely responsible for the tremendous economic gains of the 1990's. Yet the goose that laid the golden egg is severely attacked. By whom? By a gang of competitors who could not compete in a free market. By a gang of competitors who met together to construct a case against Microsoft and ask the federal government to prosecute it. Collusion?

Yes Microsoft is aggressive. In business you do not go far without being aggressive. Aggressive action and words can stir up emotional responses, but that does not make them illegal?

The general public has not been harmed by Microsoft. To the contrary. Microsoft has made it easy for the novice to use computer systems. They have provided a much needed standard. Compare that to the incompatible wireless telephone systems. My wireless telephone will not work in Europe. Old time computer users complain about Microsoft. They know how to work around computer problems and do for themselves. The general public does not. Microsoft provides a standard, a tool the general public can easily use.

Bundling. I want blundling. I do not want to buy my operating software system a piece at a time. Only special applications do I want to buy one piece at a time. I also do not want to make the piece by piece selection of what goes in my basic operating system. I am not smart enough. Microsoft lets me easily buy a complete system that works great.

Cost. Per line of code, there is no maintained software package that is cheaper.

Do we really want to put overzealous tethers on the company that had a large part in creating the golden egg economic era of the 1990's. I would think twice about that.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Loyd D. Jacobs

P. S. I am a Boeing retiree.

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>.

MTC-00029315_0002